Appl. No.: 10/708,343

Reply to Office Action mailed December 15, 2005

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes the addition of new figure, Figure 3; the contents of which are fully supported throughout the Specification and as such, no new matter has been added to this application.

Attachment: New Sheet of Drawings including Figure 3.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action dated December 15, 2005, Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that the Applicant regards as the invention; the drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R.. § 1.83(a) as being failing to shown each and every feature of the invention specified in the claims; and Claims 1-6 were indicated by the Examiner as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

By this Amendment and Reply, Claims 1, 3, and 6 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that the Applicant regards as the invention; Claims 7 and 8 have been added, and no claims have been canceled. Additionally, Figure 3 has been added to the application and the Specification has been amended accordingly to reflect the addition of Figure 3. As such, Claims 1-8 are now pending in the application.

Due to the amendments to the claims, and for at least the reasons set forth below, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and requests removal of the rejections.

Amendments To The Specification

The Specification has been amended to reflect the addition of added Fig. 3.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2

Claims 1, 3, and 6 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion and are now believed to be in condition for allowance. As such, the Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 1-6 be removed and the claims be allowed to issue.

Amendments To The Drawings

Figure 3 has been added to the Specification in accordance with 37 § C.F.R. 1.121(d). Because the originally filed Specification fully supports the addition of Figure 3, no new matter has been added by this new figure.

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New Claims

Newly added Claims 7 and 8 ultimately depend on amended Claim 1—now asserted to be allowable—and thus include at least the patentable aspects of thereof. As such, the Applicant respectfully submits that these new claims are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Based at least on the forgoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-8 are in patentable and therefore requests that these claims be allowed.

If any charges or fees must be paid in connection with this communication, they may be paid out of our Deposit Account No. 50-0545. Additionally, should anything further be required, a telephone call to the undersigned at (312) 226-1818 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 9, 2006

Joseph M. Kinsella Jr.

Reg. No. 45,743

One of Applicant's Attorneys

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

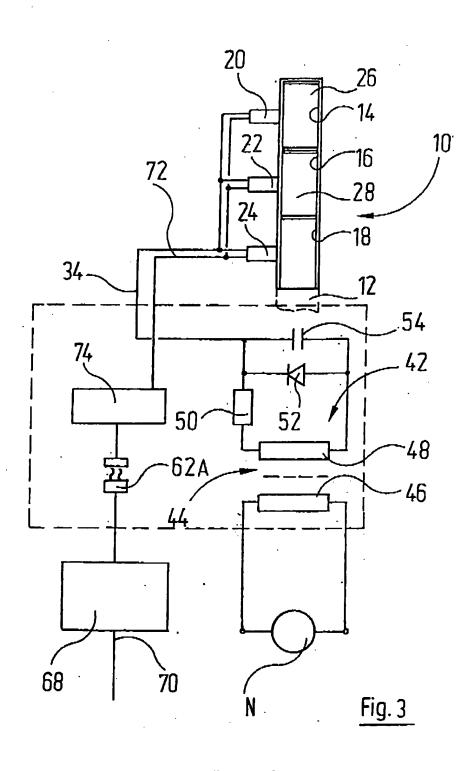
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope Addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 9, 2006



ATTACHMENT

New Sheet of Drawings Showing Added Figure 3

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